

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, FIGS. 4 and 9a, 9b, and claim 1 have been amended and new claim 4 has been added. Claims 1-4 are pending and under consideration. Claim 3 is allowed.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS:

The drawings have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS/REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendments to claim 1 overcome the rejection/objection.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art FIGS. 4 and 9a, 9b in view of Sonobe et al.

Independent claim 1 recites that a casting method integrally molds the metal base on the underside of the ceramic plate of the ceramic substrate, which has no lower plate.

In contrast, paragraph [0063] of the reference discloses that a copper foil 80 provided on the back surface of each of the ceramic substrates 8a and 8b for soldering the ceramic substrate to the metal base 1b is positioned inside a substrate end surface 94. This copper foil/back surface would correspond to a lower plate.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 4 is added and recites features similar to those recited in allowed claim 3.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 12-21-04

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawing(s) include changes to FIGS. 4 and 9a, 9b, which have been labeled as PRIOR ART.